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6. (Amended) The administration form as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coating film in (a) is a copolymer of acrylic and methacrylic acid esters having quaternary ammonium structures.

7. (Amended) An administration form as claimed in claim 1 wherein the coating film of (b) is an enteric coating.

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9. (Amended) The administration form as claimed in claim 7 in combination with an antimicrobial agent.

R E M A R K S

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following comments.

The amendments to claim 1 are based on original claim 7, the text in the last four paragraphs on page 7 of the specification and Example 2.

The combined administration form can be in either tablet or capsule form, in which the active compound contained in conventionally coated pellets will be released first after administration and, after some time (which is adjustable depending on the type and thickness of the coating of the pellets according to the invention), the active compound contained in the sustained release pellets will be released in a second pulse.

The rejection of claims 1, 3, 11 and 12 to 20 "under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 97/02020 to Dietrich et

al." is respectfully traversed. Dietrich neither discloses nor renders obvious the combination originally called for by claim 7 and now incorporated in all of Applicants' claims. As claim 7 was not included in the list of claims rejected over this reference, it is now clear that this entire ground of rejection has been overcome.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4 to 7, 11, 12, 14 to 17 and 20 "under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Us Patent 4,786,505 to Lovgren et al." is also respectfully traversed. With all due respect Lovgren neither discloses nor suggests the combination to which all of Applicants' claims are now limited.

Having overcome all outstanding grounds of rejection, favorable action on the merits is in order and is respectfully solicited.

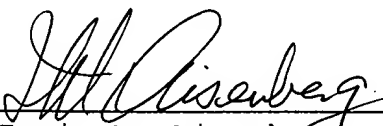
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 5, 2002

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Twice Amended) An oral combination administration form of an active compound, which is a pyridin-2-ylmethylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which comprises a) the active compound together with a tablet disintegrant in a core which bears a coating film customary per se for a sustained release composition and b) the active compound in a core which bears a coating film customary per se for a delayed release composition.

6. (Amended) The administration form as claimed in claim 1, wherein the [film] coating film in (a) is a copolymer of acrylic and methacrylic acid esters having quaternary ammonium structures.

7. (Amended) [A combination consisting of an] An administration form as claimed in claim 1 [and an administration form of a pyridin-2-ylmethylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole having] wherein the coating film of (b) is an enteric coating.

9. (Amended) The [combination] administration form as claimed in claim 7 in combination with [or for combined use with] an antimicrobial agent.